

Membership Balance Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME

State the legal name of the FAC

Environmental Financial Advisory Board

2. AUTHORITY

Identify the authority for establishing the FAC

Agency Authority, Deputy Administrator approval document.

3. MISSION/FUNCTION

Describe the mission/function of the FAC

There are many critical environmental financing issues facing our nation. Environmental legislation places significant additional resource requirements on all levels of government, increasing their infrastructure and administrative costs. At the same time, limited budgets and economic challenges have constrained traditional sources of capital. Growing needs and expectations for environmental protection, as well as increasing demands in all municipal service areas, make it difficult for state and local governments to find the resources to meet their needs. The resulting strain on the public sector challenges the quality and delivery of environmental services. The Environmental Financial Advisory Board's (EFAB) major objectives are to provide policy advice and recommendations on:

- (a.) Reducing the cost of financing sustainable environmental facilities, discouraging polluting behavior, and encouraging stewardship of natural resources;
- (b.) Creating incentives to increase private investment in the provision of environmental services and removing or reducing constraints on private involvement imposed by current regulations;
- (c.) Developing new and innovative environmental financing approaches and supporting and encouraging the use of cost-effective existing approaches;
- (d.) Identifying approaches specifically targeted to small community financing;
- (e.) Assessing government strategies for implementing public-private partnerships, including privatization and operations and maintenance issues, and other alternative financing mechanisms;
- (f.) Improving governmental principles of accounting and disclosure standards to help improve sustainability of environmental programs;
- (g.) Increasing the capacity of state and local governments to carry out their respective environmental programs under current Federal tax laws;
- (h.) Increasing the total investment in environmental protection and stewardship of public and private environmental resources to help ease the environmental financing challenge facing our nation; and
- (i.) Removing barriers and increasing opportunities for the U.S. financial services and environmental goods and services industries in other nations.

4. POINTS OF VIEW

Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,

- (a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories*
- (b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and*
- (c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members*

The EFAB will be composed of approximately thirty-five (35) members who will serve as Representative members of non-federal interests, Regular Government Employees (RGEs), or Special Government Employees (SGEs). Representative members are selected to represent the points of view held by specific organizations, associations, or classes of individuals. In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates from all levels of government; the finance, banking, and legal communities; business and industry; and local, national and non-governmental organizations.

5. OTHER BALANCE FACTORS

List any other factors EPA identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

Diversity of backgrounds and perspectives required to address the wide variety of issues pertaining to environmental finance and geographic location may be considered.

6. CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance.

The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify EPA key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by EPA*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

Approximately 8 months prior to expiration of committee members' terms the DFO meets with EPA's Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee Management, and Outreach (ODACMO) to discuss the outreach plan, establish a timeline, and other issues concerning the membership package. After approval of the outreach plan the DFO conducts outreach for new members in accordance with the plan.

Recommendations for nominees come from the Designated Federal Official, EPA senior management, past and present Board members, contacts within public and private organizations, and through solicitation via the Federal Register.

After a review of the pool of nominees, a determination is made to consider whether additional outreach is needed. Each SGE candidate is researched to determine whether the person is a federally registered lobbyist. In addition, SGE candidates are screened for the absence of conflicts of interest and other ethics issues. The DFO develops a draft grid of nominees, including at least one additional candidate for each point of view for the function the committee is to perform.

A balance review of the proposed membership is then conducted by ODACMO and the Office of General Counsel FACA Attorney. Different levels of EPA managers then review the draft package for questions or comments before the final package is prepared.

Formal letters of invitation to serve on the EFAB will be extended by the Administrator or Deputy Administrator of EPA. This cycle will be repeated for any occurring vacancies. Members are usually appointed for a two-year term. Generally, members may be reappointed for a total of 6 years.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on*

subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

EPA plans to use the process that is used to determine advisory committee member balance for the parent (Tier 1) Federal advisory committee for any Tier 2 subcommittee(s) that may be created.

8. OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

Not applicable.

9. DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

January 14, 2016